

# Crimes Reported in Cambridge

January 1 to September 30

Crime	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2000	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2001	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2003	Change 02-03
<b>Murder</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>*Inc.</b>
<b>Rape</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>*Inc.</b>
Stranger	3	2	2	1	*Inc.
Non-Stranger	6	8	8	6	*Inc.
<b>Robbery</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>+23%</b>
Commercial	18	22	27	28	+4%
Street	112	103	106	135	+27%
<b>Agg. Assault</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>-13%</b>
<b>Burglary</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>-21%</b>
Commercial	129	98	128	113	-12%
Residential	288	381	441	335	-24%
<b>Larceny</b>	<b>2148</b>	<b>2109</b>	<b>2143</b>	<b>1851</b>	<b>-14%</b>
Building	460	394	403	403	N.C.
Fm. Motor Vehicle	504	538	561	487	-13%
Person	270	334	296	239	-19%
Bicycle	282	244	227	169	-26%
Shoplifting	271	342	349	265	-24%
Residence	168	122	158	167	+6%
MV Plate	119	75	76	63	-17%
Services	13	21	23	26	+13%
Misc.	61	39	50	32	-36%
<b>Auto Theft</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>-7%</b>
<b>Total Violent</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>-2%</b>
<b>Total Prop.</b>	<b>2912</b>	<b>2995</b>	<b>3059</b>	<b>2623</b>	<b>-14%</b>
<b>Index Total</b>	<b>3296</b>	<b>3357</b>	<b>3438</b>	<b>2996</b>	<b>-13%</b>

\*Note: percentages are not calculated for numbers so small as to lead to a statistically misleading percentage.

## First Nine Months in Review

The downward trend in crime in Cambridge continued in the third quarter of 2003. Over the first nine months of 2003, there were 442 fewer index crimes reported in the City when compared with the same time period last year. The decrease from 3438 incidents recorded between January 1<sup>st</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup> of 2002 to 2996 incidents this year reveals a thirteen percent decrease in serious crime. Further analysis indicates that despite declines in murder, rape and assault, violent crime fell only two percent as these drops were offset by a twenty-three percent increase in robbery. The twenty-one percent decline in burglary helped propel the fourteen percent slide in property crime when compared with 2002.

The twenty-three percent increase in robbery was fueled by the twenty-seven percent increase in street robberies. Despite the fact that many neighborhoods experienced an increase in this crime, no major street robbery patterns emerged.

Year to date, housebreaks are down twenty-four percent. However, housebreaks increased considerably in the last two months of the third quarter. This increase was due to a pattern of breaks that plagued the Mid-Cambridge neighborhood. The housebreak total in Mid-Cambridge consistently ranks highest among the City's neighborhoods, however, from mid-August to the end of the quarter, thirty-three housebreaks were reported in this neighborhood. During the same time period in 2002, only five housebreaks were reported. All of the breaks reported in this year's pattern were concentrated below Broadway in an area bordered by Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, and Ellery Street.

Overall, statistical indicators point to a Serious Crime Index in 2003 below 4000 incidents for the first time in forty years.

January-September Crime,  
Past 5 Years

